

BRIDGES

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2015

A STARPHOENIX COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



PART OF THE FABRIC

**DON KERR AND
SASKATCHEWAN
ARE HAND IN GLOVE
P. 6**

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READ MY BOOK

LOCAL AUTHORS: Writers tell us what makes their book worth reading

TREINA WYNES

Am I The Only One: Struggling Being A Teen

It didn't take long after my first book, *Being Myself: Crazy, but I know a second one was not far behind*. However, the next one would be the last.

During my book signing events with *Being Myself: Crazy*, I would frequently be engaged in conversations with parents about their teens who were worried about their teenage son or daughter, specifically around body image issues and self-harm. I would be asked by these parents if I could write a book for teens. How could I say no when there is such a great need?

The world has become a harsher and more critical place to grow up in and our teens are being hurt from all sides. With the onslaught



Treina Wynes

of messages that we need to be identified, beautiful and smart to be successful among teens that they are not measuring up. It is during this stage, where self-worth is being developed, that our Western culture constantly keeps knocking it down. Kids are caught up in the same level of hypercon-

cernness that you find on Wall Street or the Olympics and it is coming with a great cost. Mental health-related diseases, teen suicide and self-harming behaviors are going up. I see it regularly in my line of work and it is extremely concerning.

Having over 35 years' experience working with teens as well as making my own I have been exposed to a lot of challenges that teens face. Social media has completely changed the landscape of teen development. Kids are no longer just comparing themselves to their peers at school but to the millions of people they see online. Bullying is no longer a getting out of control. The anonymous online

attacks that can eventually lead to depression, anxiety and PTSD.

My hope is to educate what teens are thinking, feel good and worrying about and let them know they are not alone. I encourage parents, caregivers and professionals to take a road in order to open up a dialogue on how we can better support our future leaders who are being vulnerable during this stage of their lives.

Treina Wynes is a registered social worker and speaker. Her blog can be found at treinawynes.com. Her second book, *Am I The Only One? Struggling Being A Teen* can be found on Amazon.ca, Chapters, Indigo and McNally Robinson Bookstores.



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Nuts About Nature

At Beaver Creek Conservation Area

Hi kids! My name's Chip, and I live at Beaver Creek Conservation Area. Visit my backyard with your family and friends and enjoy some time away from the city.

Dear Chip,
What is the most common frog we have around Saskatoon?

JoJo

By far the most common frogs around Saskatoon are wood frogs, which can be easy to catch in places like Cranberry Ponds or Chippewas Marsh. Wood frogs come in a variety of shades of brown and grey, but most individuals have a characteristic black stripe over their eyes. Wood frogs are extremely important for humans because they feed on noxious pest insects, anurans, slugs, worms, and snails. However, like for a frog isn't easy because they face a wide variety of predators such as garter snakes, moose, skunks, coyotes, foxes, and numerous birds. If they are not gobbled up by a predator the adult frogs will lay a cluster of eggs in the shallow waters. When the eggs hatch they turn into plant-eating tadpoles which have a whole different set of predators including beetles, salamanders, turtles, and other frogs. This is why the average wood frog usually lives no longer than about 3 years as an adult. But don't worry about predators eating all the frogs because one frog can produce anywhere from 2,000 to 3,000 eggs in one year! Remember to wash your hands and be gentle when catching our frog friends.

Send your questions to me at the address below, then watch *Endings for the Awaited*.

Your pal, Chip

Public Access Address: 1215 Hwy 104 N. Saskatoon, SK S7N 3G6
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Meewasin

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Don Kari enjoys reading and writing poetry at the Broadway Theater. BRIDGES PHOTO BY LIAM RICHARDS

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The Karpinski Brothers' Aaron (left) and Shawn have found success after years of playing the bars scene around the province and beyond. BRIDGES PHOTO BY LIAM RICHARDS

BRIDGES COVER PHOTO BY LIAM RICHARDS

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ON THE SCENE

#FOLKFEST

Folkfest continues to be a highlight of the year for culture lovers in Saskatoon. The community event celebrated its 36th anniversary year with 22 pavilions including two new ones — Ethiopia and Nepal. The three-day event features food and drink and cultural entertainment and wouldn't be possible without the generosity of sponsors and the 5,000 volunteers who donate their time and effort. Plans are no doubt already being made for the 2013 edition.

BRIDGED PHOTOS BY LIAM RICHARDS



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ON THE SCENE



1. Nicole Matheson and daughter Zoe, age 2

2. Kristin Matheson, son Leesh, age 3, and daughter Annastasia, age 1

3. From left: Jesse, Abbott, Brittney Johnson and Leann Rozichale

4. Karelle Achymchuk

5. Members of the World Games Academy perform

6. Madson Telt, Austin Kassas, and Kellen Courtney

7. Garibayan, Wendy Baran, Chelsea Baran, and Mavis Moore

8. Vance Matheson and daughter Mia, age 3

9. Shawn Elliott, Matthew Carrin, Jeff Miky, Matthew Carrin, and Jordan Bell

10. Lauren McDonald, Nancy McDonald, Stef Anyt, and Paige Shumakov



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Above Your Expectations!

ON THE COVER

I don't have any choice. You just have to keep doing it. If I did nothing I'd hate myself.

— Don Kerr

DON KERR

A scholar — and poet — of the people



Don Kerr has been a professor, poet, playwright and historian throughout his prolific career. (KERR PHOTO BY LAM ENGLAND)

By Sean Trembath

Don Kerr's journey is infused with history. His fascination with Saskatchewan and the entire province of Saskatchewan has long been one of his primary muses, and the well is far from dry.

Even today, more than a decade after he retired as a professor at the

University of Saskatchewan, Kerr makes almost daily trips to the Headwaters Library, his de facto writing studio.

Kerr has acted as professor, poet, playwright and historian throughout a prolific career. His place in the province has been officially recognized, first with an Order of Merit in 2007, then with a three-year stint as

Saskatchewan's poet laureate starting in 2011.

"I love it when someone you know and recognize you, and he has really surpassed me with the breadth of his work through the years," says David Carpenter, a longtime colleague and collaborator.

Kerr's life and work are so interwoven with Saskatchewan that Carpen-

ter thinks of him as a constituent part of the city.

"If there were to pass on, it's almost like Saskatchewan would lose its memory," he says.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Born in 1939, Kerr has spent most of his life in the Brochy area of Saskatchewan. He has watched the city

change for better and worse.

"I grew up in a city that had nothing to do with this city," Kerr says.

The population was around 3,000 at the time, and it was reflected in the city's geography being much more compact. Kerr describes walking one block from St. Joseph School, located where Oakway now sits, and reaching open prairie.

I grew up in a city that had nothing to do with this city.
—Kerr



Don Kerr was born and raised in Santa Rosa and grew up in the area around Broadway Avenue.
BY TERRY FLETCHER FOR THE JOURNAL

"I still don't believe all these suburbs," he says.

He went to high school at Nielsen College. He looks back at those teenage years without much fondness.

"I wasn't an athlete and I wasn't going out with girls. I was shy. And the teachers weren't my good, either," he says.

It was only after heading to the U of S that he found the academic environment he had been craving.

"Leaving high school and going to university was like leaving hell and going to heaven."

en," Kerr says.

He excelled in arts and sciences, partially because he determined it would give him the most free time. He also took some commerce classes to appease his father on account.

His eventual decision to drop commerce and focus on English led to the early fight he can remember having with his father. For three weeks, he had battled him about the value of an English degree. Kerr thanks his dad. Afterward, his mother told him to prove that she supported his decision and was proud of his education.

Continued on Page 8

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I love it when someone you know well surprises you, and he has really surprised me with the breadth of his work through the years. — David Carpenter



Down to earth poet: Dan Kerr continues to read and write poetry at his favorite coffee shop on Broadway Avenue. PHOTOS BY LISA RICHARDS

Kerr had fallen in love with literature and poetry in his second year; he read everything Yates had ever written.

"I didn't understand it all, but I kept on going," he says.

His voraciousness carried over to his master's degree at the University of Toronto, where his thesis focused on Charles Dickens.

"In one year I read, in order, 10,000 pages of Dickens. I loved it," he says.

After Toronto, he headed to the University of London for a PhD. The degree was not to be, but, his time in London shaped the intellectual

groundwork for his entire teaching career at the U of S.

"All I did was go to movies and plays for two years," Kerr says.

He says he saw five movies and a play every week. Being in Europe in the '60s, he was exposed to the continent's cinematic movements—Italian Neo Realism, the French New Wave—and he was hooked.

"Dad was my favorite. As I told people in my film class, there's only a few of us who love Godard and we're smarter than anyone else," Kerr says.

After returning to Canada, he was offered teaching jobs at the U of S

and York. Saskatchewan was the natural choice, both because he grew up there and because he never learned to drive a car. He settled back in the Broadway area and made a habit to read.

Despite his liberal education in literature, film and theatre, he became his specialty.

"The things I educated myself on were the things I taught all my life. I never taught anything I was taught myself," Kerr says.

He took the job very seriously. Rob Golder, who has known Kerr for more than 30 years beginning as a colleague at the university, tells

about Kerr taking his work with him when he would walk down to see Sholom glasses at the old Saskatoon Arms downtown.

"What he would do is take half a dozen or so essays or notes he tended to grade. When the lights broke out he would mark a paper," Golder says.

Kerr still found time for other on-campus duties. During his years at the U of S, he was involved with the World University Service of Canada, the Saskatoon Public Library Board, the Macmillan Valley Authority, the Saskatchewan Arts Board and the Kipling. He has also served on the

board of two regional publishers: *Caldera House* and *Interurban's North Star Press*, where he remains a member more than 30 years after first stepping up.

Through it all, he continued to work on his own projects. Although he says he could only finish the larger works on sabbatical, he has written poetry since he was an undergraduate.

Kerr and David Carpenter have been publishing each other for decades. At first, Carpenter says they were "class poets" in an era when there was much less of a sense in the province

Godard was my favourite. As I told people in my film class, there's only a few of us who love Godard, and we're smarter than anyone else. — Kerr

"We've been each other's an editors," Carpenter says.

He encouraged Kerr to keep at it as soon as he started reading Kerr's work.

"Not only was it wonderfully read, it is the history of Saskatchewan and the history of this province, but also very critical about it. He was able to take certain historic and economic trends and attack those in a really biting fashion," Carpenter says.

He also praises Kerr's writing. After a boring piece of nature, he can turn out a lyrical, evocative piece of prose or less. Also, his work isn't limited to poetry, with books and plays to his name.

"He has an easy access to his language," Carpenter says.

Kerr's tenure as poet laureate took him all across the province, to read everywhere and small. On top of that, moments of his travels, he credits the poet with making him a better person.

"I became a better reader. I had to read so often, I began to read more slowly so everything was done," Kerr says.

Bob Collier says Kerr was a hell of an infection for the house.

"It was a wonderful chance. Don's poetry is subtle, but it's also accessible to the general public," he says.

These days, Kerr says most of his inspiration comes from reading. He'll sit at the Remedy read a poem and start scribbling poetry into the margins.

Some of his earlier work stemmed from current events. One of his personal favourites was written the day the old Capital Theatre was demolished in Saskatoon. Looking back, he remembers that day as a black mark in Saskatchewan's history.

"Some of us like myself have never forgiven it, and our fury remains undimmed," he says.

After the demolition, Kerr wandered to the nearby Elks bar, drank about a beer, and turned and Capital Theatre, a poem he says is his best.

Tipping back beverages with Kerr is one of Carpenter's favourite memories of their time together.

"One of the things that authors are is he doesn't drink very much anymore. He used to be a great drink-



Don Kerr was awarded the Saskatchewan Order of Merit in 2007, an honour given only to Saskatchewan's most notable living Canadians. (Photo: Don Kerr)

ing buddy," Carpenter says.

"He's a great conversationalist and storyteller. If you ask Don a simple question, he'll come out with a beautifully detailed story that resonates with the past."

Kerr's love of history shows in his non-poetic work, which is even more enough to be hard to catalogue accurately. Among his books are two chronicling the work of visual

artists — Regina's Victor Clossky and Winnipeg's Don Probst. He contributed an essay on nature writing to a book on the literary history of Saskatchewan. He has edited many books through his work with the Don Probst. He wrote another book on the history of Saskatchewan's public library system, something he speaks of as one of the province's great triumphs.

"Saskatchewan had a literary system in the 30s that was among the three worst in all of North America," he says.

It was only the efforts of multiple provincial governments, from the CCF to the Liberals to Grant Devine's Progressive Conservatives to Allan Rock's NDP that moved the situation to where it is today. His next project is another history

book on the Saskatchewan Junior Football.

Despite reaching an age where one would find him slowing down, Kerr has no intention to do so.

"I don't have any choice. You just have to keep doing it," he says. "If I did nothing I'd hate myself."

donkerr@sasktel.net
donkerr.com/sasktel

IN THE CITY

AUGUST 19, 2015 — 12:49 P.M.

Slip sliding away



Participants enjoy the Slip: the City's 400-metre-long water slide down River Road on Saturday. Event director Chris Gorman said the six per cent grade of the north Saskatchewan hill was "perfect." Anything steeper is unsafe; when anything more gradual would lead to children "just sliding down." A dozen of seven 500 and 300 children, as well as medical personnel, were on hand. [Website Photo by Lisa Robinson](#)

FALL
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The StarPhoenix

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MUSIC EDUCATION BOOSTS MORE THAN TEST SCORES

School is much more than a place where students gather to learn. For children, school is their first step toward the social development and socialization to people outside of their family unit. Lessons learned at school go beyond mathematics and language arts. Students learn to cultivate individual interests and find other people who share their interests. Music is one of the ways kids bonded children come together.

When many people talk about the benefits of music education, they're quick to point out all of the quantitative and measurable results that music education has. For instance, numerous studies have shown the positive impact music programs can have on children in other areas of study.

Dr. Laurel Trainor, a professor of psychology, neuroscience and behavior at Wilfrid Laurier University, has said that young children who take music lessons show different levels of development and improved

memory compared to children who do not receive musical training. Stanford University researchers have found that musical training equips how the brain processes the spoken word, a finding that researchers say could lead to improving the reading ability of children who have dyslexia and other reading problems. Furthermore, in an analysis of data on more than 25,000 secondary school students conducted at the United States Department of Education found that students who report consistent involvement in instrumental music during middle school and high school perform significantly better in mathematics by grade 12 than those who do not participate in music programs.

There are many reasons why music education can help in making a child a better student, but there also are other benefits that go beyond the classroom environment. Being involved in music also is a social



Marching band and chorus can be enjoyable extracurricular activities for students who do not gravitate toward sports or academic clubs.

(PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK)

activity, and music education can set the example for lifelong friendship and help create social groups that last through school and beyond.

Music education also benefits families during a school

career, when playing from class to class or from school to school every year can be nerve-wracking and stressful. Walking around a band room, whether in elementary school or high school, can create a sense of belonging. It is also a place where students can be valued as artists or other activities can gather.

Children who move a lot due to a parent's work may find that joining the marching band or participation in the choir is the one positive of school that is familiar no matter where they attend school. While neighborhoods may change and teachers do, for most school to school, music can be a reliable constant.

While not every child will go on to be the next great musical sensation, thanks to music education at school, he or she will have learned lessons in working as a team and other social benefits that will help in all areas of life. (MEX)

ABOUT THIS CONTENT This feature contains articles created by StarPhoenix Staff Projects as well as articles contributed by members of the Saskatoon music and dance community to promote awareness of this topic for commercial purposes. The StarPhoenix editorial department had no involvement in the creation of this content.

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ROCK THE RIVER IS BACK, WITH MORE CLASSIC ROCK

BY JOHNNIE MACDOYER SMITH
OF SP SPECIAL PROJECTS

Rock the River was on its feet last year, says critics who had to be told it again in 2012. Presented by Rockfest Centre, Rock 120 PM and the Delta River Inn, Saskatchewan's classic rock festival proved very popular right from the launch. According to SaskTel's creative director Scott Ford, the festival sold out all three days.

The event happens August 23 to 25, at the same time as the Rock 360 Show and Show Weekend, giving visitors a double bang for their buck.

"The decision and genius I would say probably is really generated a lot of excitement. Certainly the two weeks keeping together made it really exciting and put the community wanting to come in Saskatoon. And go to the beautiful Delta River Inn and Gardens and have to come past (classical) rock," says Ford.

The success of its inaugural year helped the event win a nomination for New Talent Producer of the Year at the Toronto Saskatchewan Awards.

The location of the festival decision is solid thanks for attendees as well. They are often at downtown or semi-downtown restaurants and shopping. The festival site of the scenic Delta River Inn, Gardens offers a beautiful backdrop along Saskatchewan's riverbank.

"What else is unique about it, is because it's downtown in Saskatoon. It's different than most (music) festivals where you go and you camp. Once it's downtown it actually fills a lot of hotel rooms downtown and has some great upshot economic benefits for not only the downtown, but also for downtown shopping, downtown restaurants. It's a very strong economic producer in the market," says Ford.

For its second year, Rock the River has some guests from a better history of classic rock bands to delight fans. Friday will see Chickadee, Decade, and April Wine take the stage. On Saturday the event has Rock & Rollin' things all day 4 p.m., followed by Regis, Kenny Shred, and Decade, and Mark Faries of Grand Funk Railroad to wrap things up. Sunday brings features Carol Pope of Rough Trade, The Ram-



Headliner was one of the acts from last year's first up at Rock the River. This year's festival at the Delta River Inn, Gardens features Chickadee, April Wine, Kenny Shred, and Decade, Mark Faries of Grand Funk Railroad, Kim Mitchell and Purgatory, among others. Rock the River After Party follows the main stage shows at Delta River Inn, Gardens with tribute band Snake Oil Sippers, or no name.

probies, Kim Mitchell, and Purgatory.

"This year the party doesn't have to stop. It means there can't get enough of the music classic experience

have added the Rock the River After Party featuring Snake Oil Sippers. Friday and Saturday night Snake Oil Sippers will rock the O'Brien Event Centre, just a short walk from the festival site starting at 10 p.m.

"The Snake Oil Sippers are a tribute band that plays all the classic rock hits," says Ford. "They are based in Saskatoon all over North America. They are tons of fans. They dance up to continue and I think people are really going to enjoy watching them as well."

Day passes are quickly selling out for the event. Tickets for the After Party are also selling well, and available at Ticketmaster.

Ford says while some of the bands are major headliners, each band had some major live back to the day guaranteed to bring back memories for fans.

"When you put these all together the shows are great. The line here is 'The bands here is'. But some 'It was just a show meant to make and we're looking forward to having it again this year'."

More information can be found at www.rocktheriver.ca.

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FALL
MUSIC
DANCE

ENTERTAINMENT LINE-UP GROWS JAZZ SOCIETY'S MEMBERSHIP

FOR SP SPECIAL PROJECTS

Jerry DeFranco, a jazz legend on any organ, trumpet and vocals, will be among the star attractions for the 30th Jazz Society this fall.

DeFranco has played with Miles Davis and Jimmy Smith and has recorded more than 30 albums, some while working with Ray Charles and Bettye Miller.

"He's a genius and the modern day star on the jazz organ," says Don Griffith, artistic director of the society. "And since we have the Vancouver R3 organ in the Basement, what better way to showcase the man and the organ?"

DeFranco will appear at The Basement, which is located at 303 South Gresham North, on Friday, Oct. 30, in what Griffith calls his Jazz Theatre Series.

Griffith has been the artistic director of The Basement ever since November, 2008, although the club itself dates



Legendary jazz organist Jerry DeFranco will entertain audiences October 30 at the Saskatoon Jazz Society's Basement series. 200/01000001000

would the following September. He has been a music educator at Dalhousie Junior Military High School for 35 years and retired as a jazz. He has been a musician of note, widely known for his piano playing but has also chosen to join orchestras.

With The Basement, he leads acts for about 40 weeks of the year, maintaining

on par on Saturday night, leading on a strong theme following on Friday nights, and adding other acts in and near if art acts are on tour.

The jazz series will be launched on Sept. 12 with the Steve Fyfe Big Band, a Saskatoon stand-out act.

Tom Davidson, a talented composer,

has clocked on a Dues CD and three of artists, who share time on the recording, will be visiting Saskatoon with his Oct. 24. Over the course of the CD, changes are also will play a short, 192 E. 1996 Street with lyrics on man Willie Mackey, a short, Silver Blue, with guitarist David Gullipoli, a short, Karoline Kowalski, with latest Andrew Downing.

Another early guest will be Steve Hill, a vocal act who has been at The Basement on Oct. 30. Hill did a show of his own during the Saskatoon Jazz Society and was an opening act for Matt Anderson at the Kennedy jazz stage.

Bob Young is a Calgary songwriter of folk blues songs and will be headlining Nov. 5. It's part of a celebratory season because Young has on recording that 2011 is the 50th anniversary of his birth.

There will be a strong focus on lower prices for the act, Griffith, David King,

Kim Schell and Ray Stephenson will join the new Saskatoon CD plans, donated to the society of the West Peace family on Oct. 24 and is planned to be a night of two pieces, with four handed and eight-handed repertoire.

Jack Sample, the Regina guitarist, will deliver two nights of music on Dec. 4-5. Pianist Maurice Dumas will return with his Christmas Show on Dec. 13-14. Out rule The Wolf, with on Park Road before show, will appear on Jan. 14-15. Steve and the Keweenaw will sing up a storm on March 31-April 1.

There is a stronger concentration on the Blues and swing for several first appearances on the Thursday Series and Little Venice on Sept. 30.

Sheryl Lasker is leading his operator return to a past partnership with pianist Martin Jaramila on Nov. 29.

Continued on p. 35



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Continued from p. 14

Dorel Boldt, a Canadian pianist who is an occasional visitor to Saskatoon, will likely be on the schedule in January. Oliver Jones, the legendary pianist from Miles, likes to come to Saskatoon every second year and inspiration is under way for a June date in May.

The *Radio series* is now solidly on track and the season's first two shows feature Donna Elsworth on Sept. 19 and La Wile on Oct. 11. Also good on the Chant Lynck Road, American bluesman Reynolds on Oct. 16, Tom Wilson, with Lee Harvey Oswald, on Nov. 6, Bruce Ramfen, with Steve Nier, on Nov. 13, and a host of others like Chris Larkin, the Ramfens, Alex Cota, Catherine McArthur, Telly Plaster and Ken Wilkins in the season program.

One of the strengths of the society has been the growth in membership where the total has now surpassed 1,000. Cash holders get discount rates at most performances.

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The Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers Association (SRMTA) is an organization of professional, dedicated, energetic, and qualified teachers within your community. SRMTA members teach a variety of instruments and related diversified subjects, from beginners to the most advanced levels. Each Registered Music Teacher holds at least one degree or diploma from a University. Consequently, it is recognized school of music. SRMTA members are also committed to continuous professional development. The Association's objectives include promoting progressive ideas in music education, encouraging professionalism in the art of teaching, and stimulating a high standard of music and culture.

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a very successful Provincial Award Competition. It was a wonderful opportunity for future teachers from across the province to meet and learn from experienced and accomplished professionals and teachers.

The upcoming 2011-2012 season features many fabulous events planned for SRMTA members, students, and the community. These include November's Canada Music Week, various events featuring our children, and numerous workshops and educational opportunities. In May of 2012, SRMTA members will play a huge role in supporting many students entering the Saskatchewan Music Festival and other competitions. It is a wonderful opportunity to provide educational and performance opportunities for both teachers and students.

To find a teacher in your area or to learn more about Registered Music Teachers, visit www.srmta.ca.



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FALL MUSIC DANCE

SASKTEL SUMMER INVASION ROCKS WASCANA PARK

BY BLAIR BRATENBACH
FOR SPECIAL PROJECTS

Celebrating its 30-year anniversary, SaskTel Summer Invasion has transformed from primarily a quarterly event meant to be a hole-in-one music and family entertainment extravaganza.

Taking place in Regina's picturesque Wascana Centre August 28 and 29, SaskTel Summer Invasion promises a wide array of exciting activities to be enjoyed by all. Throughout the two-day event attendees can check out cabaret-style and wine-tasting demonstrations, sample a variety of local cuisine from participating restaurants and food truck vendors or catch some of the hottest professional, amateur and occasional acts on the mainstage with evening performances from Dead & Co., Light & Day and The Bangs. The Guitars Family Zone has live painting, games and more for the kids, while the beer garden and Festival Village with its extensive selection of products and services offers goings-on according to their sheet.

"We want SaskTel Summer Invasion to be more

than just a celebration party — something for people to look forward to before they head back into their school or work environment and the long winter ahead," said SaskTel Summer Invasion's Doug Elder.

"We're trying to put together the best shows we can for fans and spectators. It's a special treat for us, but we want to make every year as enjoyable as possible."

Originally, the late summer festival catered more exclusively to the X-Genera-style crowd, but gradually supporters began requesting music and other forms of entertainment to reach a more diverse audience. And, in addition to the top-billed acts, SaskTel Summer Invasion plays host to a lengthy list of local and provincial acts.

Music is something that is a means of connection and unity in life, and there are so many great artists that we want to showcase," Elder says. "Live, acoustic and active music fits so well together that it's been a natural progression. The festival is more of a complete package now."

New to this year's festivities is a "win to get in" local party on August 27 at the DoubleTree by

Hotel, featuring the largely sold-out results of Regina's own local South. Elder says the team grand finale will be a more intimate affair, but in the SaskTel Summer Invasion continues to grow and take shape, he hopes to feature more such shows away from the main festival site.

"It's the future evolution of the event if you will," he explains, adding that for the first time this year will include a guest video wall throughout the festival site.

And perhaps one of the best restaurants of 2011 taking in the sights and sounds inside one of Canada's largest and most scenic urban parks.

"Wascana is amazing, and being in the middle of the city it's really accessible for the entire community. It's one of Regina's parks and a beautiful place to host an event like this," Elder says.

Entrance into the festival site from noon to 5 p.m. is free for everyone. Access to the evening's concerts is by admission. Tickets can be purchased at both Children's Food Bank locations, and online at www.sasktelsummerinvasion.ca.



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SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC SCENE

Karpinka Brothers reaching new heights



Shawn (left) and Aaron Karpinka have found some recent success with their band The Karpinka Brothers, and they have made music their full-time gig. (Karpinka Brothers photo by Laura Karpinka)

By Sean Trembath

The Karpinka Brothers — Aaron and Shawn — find their careers are at an all-time high.

"It feels like we have an upward trajectory more than a downward spiral. It feels like we're more in the sky than in the toilet. It's folk music like we're soaring than falling," Aaron says.

The Saskatoon siblings have shared their sound of dangy bars, baroque and even a local core house. Now with a new album release just weeks away, they are preparing to take it further than ever before.

Their third full-length, offering, *You Can Count On Me*, comes out Sept. 4.

"It's drastically different from

anything we've ever done," Aaron says.

This is true both for sound and lyrical content. It's the first time one of their albums has featured electric guitar.

"I just want to hear the notes sound a little different and ring out a bit more," Aaron says of the change.

It's also the first time Aaron has shared lyrical duties with his brother.

"It shows both of our personalities," Shawn says. "We have very different personalities, and I think it reflects that."

They only had two days in the studio, which Aaron chalked up to backstage restaurants. Even so, it was plenty of time.

"It was actually closer to one but

we looked the studio for two so we thought we might as well go into the studio and bring out," Shawn says.

Their no-nonsense recording schedule is nothing new. The brothers like to have all their ducks in a row before heading in to lay any thing down. They're also willing to let a song come out however it "was played, even if it's not note-perfect."

"If there's imperfections — and there were — we just left them in. Now when I listen back they make no sense," Shawn says.

The Saskatoon band starts Sept. 10 and will take three as far west as Vancouver, as far east as Charlottesville, and south of the border for their first time over in New York City. It's a massive undertaking, so big that both brothers have

quit their day jobs to make music their full-time gig.

"I just found I didn't have time. I'm married, with family and a life beyond music, and getting ready for the album release was taking up all my time," Shawn says.

For all the new reasons they'll see their new Saskatoon spot they don't plan to stop passing over Kato this month; they'll play the Parkway Centre Special Care Room in Saskatoon for the 25th time. It all started when a local promoter suggested them as a good fit for the venue.

"We've never done anything like that before, and we want to give it a try and it turned out to be some of the best musical experiences we've ever had," Shawn says.

Aaron remembers one time when

could barely speak between him and the audience. "When you were playing, my ears are open," they consider the shows a great learning experience.

"You have to put emotions and responses out of people who maybe weren't even expecting to see music that day," Aaron says.

The love of performing is what ever drove they find themselves in drives the siblings. Even with music now being their only source of an income, they don't let themselves feel the pressure on stage.

"I have to have the bladders on stage anything financial, or exposure-wise, because it will take away from what I'm doing it for," Aaron says.

thestarphoenix.com/news

Twitter: @seantrembath

EVENTS

What you need to know to plan your week.
Send events and photos to Bridges@thestarphoenix.com

MUSIC

Wed., Aug. 19

Family Channel Big Ticket Summer Concert: The Big Ticket, Secky & The Host Stars Dancers, The Vempas, Shane Harter and The Tide
Sakithi Centre,
3315 Thibault Ave.

Eddie Robertson
Buds on Broadway,
817 Broadway Ave.

Gides Troom
Plaza's Pub and Grill,
1433 Kilywyld Dr. N.

Thurs., Aug. 20

Brewster and the Boosters
Crackers Restaurant & Lounge,
1-327 Peachtree Ct.

Soul Florio
Buds on Broadway,
817 Broadway Ave.

Jordan Welbourne
Capitol Music Club,
264 First Ave. N.

Fri., Aug. 21

RTF Ruff
Buds on Broadway,
817 Broadway Ave.

4-Front
Army & Navy Club,
359 First Ave. N.

The Standstills Trio
McNally Malabar,
3130 Eighth St. E.

Leah Delle
McNally Malabar
Centre
183 Fairmont Ct.

Black Vienna w/ Blind Sea
Capitol Music Club,
264 First Ave. N.

Tyanna Deenise w/ Agency
Spawns
Vampiro Tavern.



Singer Backy G will perform at Sakithi Centre on Wednesday as part of the Family Channel Big Ticket Summer Concert. AP/Wide

801 Broadway Ave.

Off the Grid
Plaza's Pub and Grill,
1433 Kilywyld Dr. N.

Autopilot w/ Off the Top
Spawns
Antipex Cantina.

Rock the River After Parties:
Fear of Knowing and Snake
OK Sinners
O'Brien Event Centre,
241 Second Ave. S.

Til Dawn

806 Dufferin Ave.

Starr's Place,
106-110 Ruth St. E.

Sat., Aug. 22

RTF Ruff
Buds on Broadway,
817 Broadway Ave.

4-Front
Army & Navy Club,
359 First Ave. N.

Les Farringham
Mufson Lexion,
3021 Louise St.

Wagge Ranges
McNally Malabar,
3130 Eighth St. E.

With the Black
Vampiro Tavern,
801 Broadway Ave.

Off the Grid
Plaza's Pub and Grill,
1433 Kilywyld Dr. N.

Clepsy Chausy w/ The Bar-
cardine, and Myles and the Blanks
Antipex Cantina,
806 Dufferin Ave.

Rock the River After Parties:
Fear of Knowing and Snake
OK Sinners
O'Brien Event Centre,
241 Second Ave. S.

Til Dawn
Starr's Place,
106-110 Ruth St. E.

Sun., Aug. 23

Acoustic Jam
Buds on Broadway,
817 Broadway Ave.

Mon., Aug. 24

Coar Rumble
Buds on Broadway,
817 Broadway Ave.

Tues., Aug. 25

Stevens Playground
Buds on Broadway,
817 Broadway Ave.

The Gentile Trio: Tiffany
Poema w/ Coual and Chief
Beats
Vampiro Tavern.

801 Broadway Ave.

ART

The Gallery at Frances Mc-
Donald Central Library
Aug. 19 until Sept. 24 at 38
23rd St. E. Free of charge by Call
Janet Reception Aug. 20, 7
a.m. to 9 p.m.

Gordon Sealgrave Gallery
Until Aug. 20 in Room 111 of the
UofS Murray Building. Art and
food, the north USCAO centri-
cated student graduate show

The GalleryArt Placement
Until Aug. 20 in 228 Third
Ave. S. Abstract artwork, works
by a new generation of local
abstract artists.

Collector's Choice Art Gal-
lery
Until Aug. 22 at 625 First
Ave. N. City scenes by Kris
Engstrom and Brent Houghton
in gallery one. A gallery artist
show is in gallery two.

St. Thomas More Gallery
Until Aug. 27 at 1431 College
Dr. Sequential by Marique
Matta and Cathryn Miller

Eye Gallery
Until Aug. 28 at 117-122 College
Dr. Eyes. Works by Brian Bouché,
Carol Daniels, Marique Matta,
Joan McDonald, John Perret,
Janis Rietzner, Tied Thomas,
Karen Holbrook and Pien Zou

A Fluffy Gallery
Until Aug. 29 at 813 Broad-
way Ave. SOG 40th Anniver-
sary Show and Sale. Works by
Saskatchewan Craft Council
members.

Riverhouse Studio & Art
Gallery
Until Aug. 31 at 308 Phillips
Creek W. Artworks by Emily
Carr, a Canadian artist living
and painting at the same
time as the famous Group of
Seven. A peaceful meditation
garden out front. Features
Emily Carr quotes